

TO NAN

proposition (no pun intended)\*:

if i love you  
and if i think  
(or wish or hope)  
that you, my dear,  
are (now don't laugh)  
just in love with  
(please don't laugh) me,

would it be fair  
for wishful me  
not to explain  
the difference  
between the love  
(a verb, active)  
and the in love  
(just a phrase, prep-  
ositional)?

might explaining  
make you think twice  
and (really now)  
do i want that?

argument (no response expected):

anyone (and  
i mean just plain  
old anybody  
can be in love  
a hundred times  
(oh, at least that)  
in his or her  
life: in love is  
(don't get me wrong)  
one hell of a  
fine blue-eyed thing,  
but no BIG THING.

truly a BIG THING  
is love (the verb).  
that's something STRONG  
and TRUE. it LASTS  
because (get this)  
it's something you  
DO, not just feel,  
and MEAN TO DO  
because you want

to (and know you  
can) forever  
and ever (and  
maybe then some).

now with in love  
(with a feeling)  
you can't do that  
(make it last, i  
mean) even if  
you truly want  
to (ever so  
much and then some).

conclusion (no assistance refused):

it's up to you,  
dear. i don't know  
as much as i've  
been pretending

so you tell me (?)

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\* on second thought  
(if you don't mind)  
let the pun stand  
just on the chance  
nothing else is  
to come of this

-- Robert Hillebrand

Dousman, Wisconsin

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